

## AMENDMENTS

### *In the Claims:*

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application:

- 1           1.       (Currently amended)     A communications module, comprising:  
2           a data channel operable to translate data signals in at least one direction  
3       between a transmission cable interface and a host device interface and having a  
4       variably configurable termination impedance at a host device node connectable to a  
5       host device; and  
6           a termination impedance controller operable to set the variably configurable  
7       termination impedance of the data channel, wherein the communications module is  
8       stored before the variably configurable termination impedance of the data channel is  
9       set.
- 1           2.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 1, wherein the  
2       data channel comprises a variable resistance circuit at the host device node.
- 1           3.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 2, wherein the  
2       variable resistance circuit comprises a transistor with a voltage-controlled resistance  
3       value.
- 1           4.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 2, wherein the  
2       variable resistance circuit comprises a resistor connected in series with a switch.
- 1           5.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 2, wherein the  
2       variable resistance circuit presents different termination impedances at the host device  
3       node in response to receipt of different respective electrical control signals from the  
4       termination impedance controller.

1           6.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 2, wherein the  
2     variable resistance circuit comprises a mechanical switch for selectively connecting  
3     the host device node to different termination impedances, and the termination  
4     impedance controller enables manual control of the mechanical switch.

1           7.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 1, wherein the  
2     termination impedance controller is operable to selectively set the variably  
3     configurable termination impedance of the data channel to a differential resistance of  
4     150 Ohms in a first configuration mode and set the variably configurable termination  
5     impedance of the data channel to a differential resistance of 100 Ohms in a second  
6     configuration mode.

1           8.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 1, further  
2     comprising a housing containing the data channel.

1           9.       (Original)     The communications module of claim 8, wherein the  
2     housing has a transmission cable interface end and a host device interface end.

1           10.      (Original)     The communications module of claim 9, wherein the  
2     host device interface end of the housing is pluggable into a receptacle of a host  
3     device.

1           11.      (Original)     The communications module of claim 1 implemented in  
2     accordance with a small form pluggable (SFP) configuration or a small form factor  
3     (SFF) configuration.

1           12.      (Original)     The communications module of claim 1 implemented in  
2     accordance with a Giga-Bit Interface Converter (GBIC) configuration.

1           13.      (Original)     The communications module of claim 1, wherein the  
2     data channel provides multiple channel transmission of data in at least one direction  
3     between the transmission cable interface and the host device interface.

1           14.     (Original)     The communications module of claim 1, wherein the  
2     data channel is operable to translate data signals in both directions between the  
3     transmission cable interface and the host device interface.

1           15.     (Currently amended)     A communications module comprising:  
2             a receiver data channel operable to translate data signals from a transmission  
3     cable interface to a host device interface and a transmitter data channel operable to  
4     translate data signals from the host device interface to the transmission cable  
5     interface, wherein each of the receiver data channel and the transmitter data channel  
6     has a respective variably configurable termination impedance at a respective host  
7     device node connectable to the host device;  
8             a termination impedance controller operable to set the respective variably  
9     configurable termination impedance of each of the receiver data channel and the  
10    transmitter data channel; and  
11            a housing containing the receiver data channel, the transmitter data channel,  
12    and the termination impedance controller, and having a transmission cable interface  
13    end connectable to a transmission cable and a host device interface end connectable to  
14    a host device, wherein the communications module is stored before the variably  
15    configurable termination impedance of each of the receiver data channel and the  
16    transmitter data channel is set.

1           16.     (Original)     The communications module of claim 15, wherein each  
2     of the receiver data channel and the transmitter data channel comprises a respective  
3     variable resistance circuit at the respective host device node.

1           17.     (Original)     The communications module of claim 16, wherein each  
2     variable resistance circuit presents different termination impedances at the respective  
3     host device node in response to receipt of different respective electrical control  
4     signals from the termination impedance controller.

1           18.     (Original)     A method of making a communications module,  
2     comprising:  
3           obtaining a data channel operable to translate data signals in at least one  
4     direction between a transmission cable interface and a host device interface and  
5     having a variably configurable termination impedance at a host device node  
6     connectable to a host device;  
7           mounting the data channel in a housing having a first end connectable to a  
8     transmission cable and a second end connectable to a host device;  
9           storing the communications module before the variably configurable  
10    termination impedance of the data channel is set; and  
11           setting the variably configurable termination impedance of the data channel to  
12    a termination impedance value substantially matching a target host device termination  
13    impedance value.

1           19.     (Original)     The method of claim 18, wherein the variably  
2     configurable termination impedance of the data channel is set after the data channel is  
3     mounted in the housing.

1           20.     (Canceled)

1           21.     (Previously presented)     The communications module of claim 1,  
2     further comprising a media connector that provides the transmission cable interface  
3     and is connectable to a connector of the transmission cable.

1           22.     (Previously presented)     The communications module of claim 21,  
2     wherein the media connector is connectable to a connector of an electrical  
3     communication cable.

1           23.     (Previously presented)     The communications module of claim 22,  
2     wherein the media connector is one of a DB-9 electrical connector, an RJ45  
3     receptacle, and a HSSDC electrical connector.

1           24.     (Previously presented)     The communications module of claim 21,  
2     wherein the media connector is connectable to a connector of an optical  
3     communication cable.

1           25.     (Previously presented)     The communications module of claim 24,  
2     wherein the media connector is one of a simple connector (SC) duplex media  
3     connector, an LC connector, and a MTP/MPO connector.

1           26.     (Previously presented)     The communications module of claim 10,  
2     wherein the housing is implemented in accordance with a pluggable communication  
3     module standard selected from a Giga-Bit Interface Converter (GBIC) standard, a  
4     small form physical (SFP) standard, and a small form factor (SFF) standard.